

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAMA KO 00378 300951Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
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R 291736Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BAMA KO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3159

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAMA KO 378

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EXDIS

FOR AF/W ONLY TOM SMITH

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ELAB, ML, US

SUBJ: ANOTHER SANCTION?

REF: BAMA KO 94

1. A LOCAL LABOR SOURCE HAS TOLD THIS EMBASSY THAT THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN LABOR CENTER (AALC) HAS CUT OFF FURTHER AID TO AND RELATIONS WITH THE NATIONAL UNION OF MALIAN WORKERS (UNTM). ACCORDING TO THE SOURCE, THE AALC SOME WEEKS AGO SENT A LETTER TO THE UNTM STATING THAT BECAUSE OF THE MALIAN GOVERNMENT STAND ON THE ANTI-ZIONIST RESOLUTION AT THE UN, AND ON SEATING THE PLO IN THE ILO, AALC WOULD NO HBNGER SUPPORT UNTM PROJECTS. UNTM SECRETARY GENERAL SEYDOU DIALLO REPORTEDLY FIRED BACK A BITTER REPLY. GRM, HOWEVER, THEN CHASTIZED DIALLO FOR BEING ABRASIVE WITH AMERICANS AT A TIME WHEN THE GOVERNMENT ITSELF WAS TRYING HARD TO REPAIR RELATIONS. NEITHER DIALLO NOR THE GRM HAS RAISED THE MATTER WITH THIS EMBASSY.

2. COMMENT: IF THE REPORT IS TRUE, THE AALC ACTION JEOPARDIZES EIGHT YEARS OF CAREFULLY NURTURED RELATIONS WITH THE UNTM WHICH NOW STANDS ON THE THRESHOLD OF AN IMPORTANT NEW ADMINISTRATIVE AND POLITICAL ROLE
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PAGE 02 BAMA KO 00378 300951Z

IN MALI (REFTEL). FURTHER, THE MALIAN GOVERNMENT

PROBABLY ASSUMES THIS ACTION IS ANOTHER OFFICIAL USG
SANCTION OF MALIAN BEHAVIOR AT THE UN FOLLOWING OUR
TERMINATION OF MILITARY SALES. APPROPRIATE UNION AND
GOVERNMENTAL ROLES HAVE BEEN THOROUGHLY MUDDLED.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR CONFIRM-
ING WHETHER THE AALC HAS IN FACT CUT OFF ASSISTANCE TO THE
UNTM. IF IT HAS, COULD YOU CABLE SUMMARIES OR POUCH COPIES
OF CORRESPONDENCE ASAP. WE WOULD APPRECIATE AS WELL YOUR
ANALYSIS OF THE AALC ACTION AND THE DEGREE OF USG SUPPORT
IT MIGHT ENJOY.
MCGUIRE

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